

Message Text

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SUBJ: STATEMENT BY KAPUUO, ON NAMIBIA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF OCTOBER 23 STATEMENT "ISSUED WORLD-WIDE" BY CHIEF KUPUUO, CONCERNING CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE:

QTE: BY CLEMENS KAPUUO, THE PRESIDENT OF N.U.D.O. AND LEADER OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

THE GREATEST EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF OUR PEOPLE IS NOW IN PROGRESS. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA, WE ARE ALL SITTING AT THE SAME CONFERENCE TABLE TO DECIDE OVER THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY.

THE VARIOUS MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION HAVE AGREED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, AND HAVE DECIDED TO STAND FIRMLY ON THEIR NOT NEGOTIABLE PRINCIPLES OF

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A SINGLE STATE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND EQUAL VOTING RIGHTS

FOR ALL.

WE SHALL RELENTLESSLY OPPOSE ANY EFFORT TOWARD THE FRAGMENTATION
OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY.

THE IDEA OF BANTUSTANS IS DEAD AND WILL REMAIN SO.

WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT ONLY A COUNTRY FREE OF RACIAL
SEGREGATION AND INJUSTICES CAN SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ALL
THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA. WE STAND FOR PRINCIPLES
WHICH HVE DEVELOPED IN THE SEVENTY YEARS OF TIRELESS EFFORTS
TO RESIST DIVISION AND FRAGMENTATION.

THE VERY AIMS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE ARE SELF
DETERMINATION AND FULL INDEPENDENCE FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA
AS A WHOLE. WE MUST CREATE A CONSTITUTION THAT WILL BE
ACCEPTABLE TO ALL THE PEOPLE, BUT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF
COPYING THE CONSTITUTION OF ANY OTHER COUNTRY. WE
MUST FIND A SOLUTION SUITABLE FOR THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF
SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

WE WISH TO STATE THAT JUST AS WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO ELECT OUR
OWN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO APPOINT THE
"SOLE AND AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE" OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH
WEST AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

WE WERE THE ONES WHO SENT PETITION AFTER PETITION TO THE
UNITED NATIONS IN THE LAST THIRTY YEARS, EACH AND EVERY
ONE OF THEM DEMANDING THE REMOVAL OF SOUTH AFRICA'S
ADMINISTRATION FROM OUR COUNTRY. WE ARE THE ONES NOW WHO
SHALL DECIDE THAT AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF FRUITLESS EFFORTS
WE SHALL ACCEPT AND TEST THE SINCERITY OF THE DECLARATION
OF INTENT MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF SOUTH AFRICA EARLIER
THIS YEAR.

THE STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL UNITY AND THE BRINGING ABOUT OF
CONSENSUS BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT POLITICAL GROUP SHALL BE
THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS AN INDEPENDENT SOUTH WEST AFRICA. WE
STRUGGLED FOR DECADES AND ONLY OUR FAITH IN THE EVENTUAL
OUTCOME OF OUR STRUGGLE IS STRONGER THAN OUR BELIEF IN OUR
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CAUSE. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT WE SHALL WIN.

CHIEF CLEMENS KAPUUO

ISSUED WORLD-WIDE ON THE 23RD OF OCTOBER, 1975. UNQTE.
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